

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

66-0-6-0

Hanover

HNS.267

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 775 West Washington Street

Historic Name: Captain Nathaniel
Collamore/Joseph and Sarah White

Uses: Present: Single-Family
Residential
Original: Single-Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1811

Source: White's History, Plan 2 No. 51

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Vinyl Clapboard/Vinyl

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Stone wall along north property line and garden
shed and tarped structure along south property
line

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Vinyl
clapboard siding and windows, addition to the
south and east facades of the house

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:**
1849

Acreage: 1.26 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main
thoroughfares, the property is situated in an area
of predominantly single-family homes ranging
from early eighteenth century farmhouses to late
twentieth century suburban development on large
lots which includes grass lawns and numerous
mature trees, bushes, and other vegetation but
has a large commercial facility directly to its

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The two structure Georgian/Greek Revival style house has a tall asphalt-shingled gable roof over a rectangular main house with a two-story, cross gabled ell extending from the southeast corner of the south façade and flat roofed, one-story additions to the east façade and the southwest corner of the south façade. A long, low, L-shaped, gable roofed building is connected to the southeast corner of the main house by a low, flat roofed breezeway. The house and its additions are all vinyl clapboard sided with vinyl wrapped trim throughout. The gable roof of the main house has projecting, vinyl wrapped eaves on both its gable and gable-end facades, with small returns in the lower corners of the gable-end pediment. The later additions all have the same materials and general form but interpret the detailing of the eaves and facades differently. Two large, square brick chimneys are located just below the roof ridge at either end of the south roof slope. The double hung windows on the house and its additions are all one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. The majority of the windows are also surrounded by vinyl shutters which are installed on the siding to either side of the window frames.

The house faces north towards the road and has a symmetrical front façade with two windows located on each floor to either side of the center entrance, which also has a window centered over it. The entrance is located in a small open entry porch which has a low hip roof that projects out on all sides over a wide, flat cornice. Heavy, square columns support the outer corners of the porch and similarly detailed pilasters surround the door. Vinyl clapboard siding extends up to and around the door, and there is no sign of its original door surround or detailing. The door itself is a paneled wood door with glass panes at its upper edge which is protected by a glass storm door. Tall vinyl shutters matching the window shutters are installed to either side of the door. The door opens onto a low, wide cement landing leading into the grass lawn.

The east gable-end has a single window in the gable-end over two windows on the second floor. The two-story addition to the south façade is flush with the east façade of the house and has two additional windows on its second floor. A flat roofed, one-story addition begins just short of the northeast corner of the house and extends across the entire east façade of both the original house and its addition. A low balustrade with square posts and balusters runs along the upper edge of the porch. A single double hung window and an a/c unit are located on the south façade of the addition, while the long east façade has three large bay windows. The center window is a divided light picture window in a shallow, square bay with a steep, dark metal hip roof above, while the bay windows to either side are much larger curving bay windows. Each window has a sloping, oxidized copper roof over six narrow casement windows and a sloping lower edge. In the southeast corner, the addition steps down behind a low, flat roofed breezeway that connects the main house to the second house/garage to the southeast. The low structure has no detailing aside from a replacement half door at its center, and is barely wider than the door itself, connecting the southeast corner of the house to the northwest corner of the later structure.

The west façade has the same gable-end and second floor window configuration. On the first floor, a window is located on the left and a side entrance is located below the second floor window to the right. A single, long vinyl shutter is installed along the left side of the metal storm door, which opens onto a narrow brick landing with stairs leading onto the driveway. The one-story addition to the south façade is flush with the southwest corner of the house and has two double hung windows under wide but narrow projecting eaves.

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The second house/garage addition is essentially a separate, L-shaped structure located to the south and east of the main house. The building is one-story high with a wide, gable-end facade facing north towards the road. Unlike the gable-end of the main house, the addition's gable-end has no projecting roof or trim details. The northwest corner of the roof end in the connector, which the northeast corner projects out with the eaves of the east facade. Two large double hung windows are located on its north facade, with several more running along its east facade. The west facade of the building and garage are hidden from view behind the main house. A large, square cupola is located at the center of the gable-end roof which has a pyramid style roof and louvered sides. Aerial views of the side suggest that there may be another one-story addition across the south facade of the house which is also not visible from the street.

The house is located on an open, flat site with a wide asphalt paved driveway to the west of the house. The driveway runs south past the house before turning east into the garage. A low stone wall runs along the road to either side of the driveway and a black metal fence encloses the yard to the east of the house. Large evergreen bushes and foundation plantings surround the north, west and east facades of the house. The majority of the yard is open grass lawn with mature trees located to the house of the house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, this house was originally built in 1811 and located to the east of 698 West Washington Street (The Blueberry Farm) in the southwest corner of the side yard of that property. In its original location, the house was occupied by Captain Nathaniel Williams Collamore (1789-1865) and used as a store and post office. It was in fact the first post office in what was then known as the West Parish of Pembroke and was established on January 12, 1812 with Capt. Collamore serving as the postmaster. This appointment was well before the establishment of Hanson as a separate town and may have predated Collamore's title of "Captain" as well. Interestingly, Nathaniel Collamore was also authorized by Pembroke in 1812 to repair the base viol in the Parish Church.¹ In 1813, Nathaniel married Mary Wales of Bridgewater and the family continued to live here for many years, with Collamore serving as a town selectman from 1823 to 1828. N. Collamore is shown as the owner of the property on the 1830 Smith Plan but moved to Bangor Maine in 1837. By 1856 the property is shown as being owned by F.W. Bourne. Francis Wood Bourne (1796-1869) was a farmer who was married to Jannett Thompson and is responsible, along with his son Frank Bourne (1827-1915), for moving the house to its present location in 1849. Frank Bourne was also a farmer and there is no record that he ever married.

The 1856 Walling map shows both the home of F.W. Bourne in the house's original location, and the home of F. Bourne in its new location across the street and to the west. According to White, the Bournes converted the house into a two-family structure as part of the move and his father, Joseph White, purchased the property around 1860. Joseph White (1832-1902) was the son of Joseph and Eliza Bonney White and married Sarah E. Perry in Hanson in 1859. The couple appear to have moved directly into the house, where Joseph worked in both manufacturing (tanning) as well as agriculture. White also purchased a great deal of the surrounding land along West Washington Street, then Station Street, as shown by the 1879 Walker Atlas which recognizes not only the Joseph White residence but several adjacent house lots owned by Joseph White as well as a complex across the street to the north which included two carriage repositories, a stables, pond, office, and separate house for Mrs. White.

¹ Charles Hatch, *Genealogy of the descendants of Anthony Collamer of Scituate, Massachusetts* (1915), pp. 177-178.

<https://archive.org/details/genealogyofdesce00hatc/page/n259>. The genealogy gives his dates as 13 July 1787-22 Feb 1864. However, his gravestone in Bangor gives the dates as presented in this form for 775 West Washington (1789-1865).

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/47250161/nathaniel-collamore>

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Joseph White purchased the property from Frank Bourne and added on to it until his death in 1902, after which the family remained on the property. The 1903 Richards Atlas shows the properties as belonging to the Joseph White Estate, with the exception of a separate house on the north side of the road and to the east of the Meadow Brook which is noted to belong to Joseph's son, Joseph Bartlett White, who would later write *White's History of Hanson*. The house at 775 West Washington Street passed after Sarah's death to their youngest daughter, Bernice White Peck. Bernice married John Peck in 1902 but he appears to have died or left the family by 1920, when Bernice is listed as working as a private nurse and running the household on West Washington Street. In 1943, Bernice sold the house to Lorin and Hazel Paine.² Two years later, the Paines sold it to Charles and Elsie Oertel of Abington. The Oertels owned the property until 1963, when they transferred it to their daughter, Bernice Oertel. Bernice continued to own the property until 1972, when she sold the property to Robert F. Waters who ran the NEPALCO corporation from the site.³ The company offices were located here from 1972 until the sale of the property in 2003. Current owners Moran and Brian Gurney have owned the house since 2003 and have returned it to a solely residential use.

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² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1852, Page 129

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 3692, Page 503

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